(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to encourage the students of archaeological research and develop this place as a tourist place?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) Central Financial Assistance.for Tourism Projects is provided to State Governments on the basis of specific proposals received from them. 7 projects have been prioritised for financial assistance for the year 1997-98.

(b) The centrally assisted projects completed by the State Government since Vllth Five Year Plan period are the following:—

(i) Haveli Cottages at Ahmedpur Mandvi Beach (Junagadh Distt.)

(ii) Cafetariaat Somnath (Junagadh Distt.)

(iii) Wayside facilities at Limbdi (Surendra Nagar Distt.)

(iv) Highway facilities at Ankleshwar (Bharuch Distt.)

(v) Construction of dormitories at Pavagadh (Panchamahal Disu.)

(c) The projects prioritised for central assistance in consultation with the Slate Governments each year are sanctioned on receipt of complete and detailed proposals us per the guide guidelines. 25 projects sanctioned during different years are under various stages of completion by State Government. These include Tourist Complexes, Beach Resorts, Cottages, Wayside Amenities, Tourist Reception Centres, Flood lighting, Public conveniences, etc.

(d) and (e) The Department of Tourism has prioritised a project to provide financial assistance during 1997-98 for creating tourist facilities at Dholavira.

Complaints lodged by foreign tourists

765. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to stale:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1996-97, country-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the number of complaints lodged by these visitors and nature thereof;

(d) the action taken by the authorities on these complaints; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taked by Government to encourage inflow of more tourists into the country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) The estimated number of foreign tourists who visited India from major source markets during 1996-97 were as follows:—

S.No.	Country	Estimated Foreign Tourist Arrivals
1.	U.K.	368064
2.	Bangladesh	332544
3.	U.S.A.	231172
4.	Sri Lanka	110656
5.	Japan	100691
6.	Germany	100418
7.	France	94487
8.	Canada	76391
9.	Malaysia	55960
10.	Italy	50541
11.	Australia	49413
12.	Singapore	48325
13.	Nepal	43913
14.	Pakistan	41576
15.	Nelherland	41485
16.	Switzerland	35499
17.	Spain	24716
18.	Olhers	528587
	TOTAL	2334438

(b) The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 1996-97 is Rs. 10417.57 crores.

(c) and (d) During 1996-97,127 complaints were received by the Department of Tourism. These complaints were mostly from overseas tourists and related to air and road transport services, cheating by shopkeepers, etc. All the complaints were acknowledged and taken up with the concerned authorities for enquiry and redressal.

(e) Steps being taken to promote tourist traffic to India include improvement of infrastructural facilities, strengthening of marketing efforts and development of manpower resources.

Tourist arrival during July, 1996 to July, 1997

766. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the exact number of tourists from July, 1996 to July, 1997 who visited India;

(b) the net income earned by Government from tourism during the above mentioned period;

(c) whether Government have any plan package for increasing the number of tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) The number of foreign tourists who visited. India and the estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during July 1996 to June 1997 are 23,42,554 and Rs. 10562.98 crores respectively.

(c) and (d) The Central Department of Tourism has several plan schemes for providing financial assistance to State/UT Governments for putting up tourism infrastructure schemes and incentives to private sector and undertaking promotional activities in the overseas markets and human resource development in tourism.

Inter-Ministerial Council to Boost Tourism

767. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether inter-Ministerial council has been set up to boost tourism,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fundamental thrust of the new tourism policy?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has set up an Advisory 'Board of Tourism Indstry & Trade' under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister of Tourism to advise the Government on various Policy matters relating to tourism and to oversee implementation of the National Strategy for Tourism Development. The Members of the Board include Members of Parliament, Secretaries of different Ministries/ Departments, Professionals and representatives of Industry Associations.

(c) The Tourism Policy (1997) aims at achieving sustainable development of tourism through the co-ordinated efforts of Central Government, State Governments and the Private Sector. It also aims at creating awareness on tourism and ensuring public participation in the development of tourism.

शराबबन्दी के बाद से पर्यटन केन्द्रों में घाटा

768. श्री रामजीलाल : क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में राज्य-वार कितने पर्यटन केन्द्र हैं,

(ख) पर्यटन केन्द्र बनाने का मानदंड तथा इसमें केन्द्र व राज्य किस अनुपात में व्यय करते हैं,

(ग) क्या यह सच हैं कि हरियाणा में शराबबन्दी के बाद से पर्यटन घाटे में चल रहे हैं, और

(घ) गत तीन वर्षों में हरियाणाके पर्यटन केन्द्रो के लाभ व हानि का ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जैना) : (क) और (ख) सरकार किसी स्थान को पर्यटक क्षेत्र कें रूप में घोषित नहीं करती तथापित, देश में कई सौ ऐसे स्थान हैं जहां विभिन्न कारणों से पर्यटक आते हैं।

(ग) और (घ) पर्यटक सुविधाओं का प्रबंधन राज्य सरकारों के क्षेत्र के अधीन आता हैं । केन्द्रीय पर्यटक विभाग राज्य परिसम्पत्तियों का कोई लाभ और हानि विवरण नहीं रखता । पिछले तीन वर्षो के दौरान हरियाणा राज्य में पर्यटक यातायात निम्न प्रकार से था :-

वर्ष	स्वदेशी	विदेशी
1994	306559	1284
1995	311535	2222
1996	281648	1763